

Submitted by  
Rep. Smith

## Man Charged In Beating Of 91-Year-Old

POSTED: Monday, May 14, 2007

UPDATED: 11:16 am EDT May 14, 2007

A 91-year-old man is recovering after he was attacked by a carjacker, police said.

Deontae Bradley, 22, was formally charged with felony carjacking and assault Friday.

According to police, Bradley stole Leonard Sims' car and beat him repeatedly in the face.

Sims, a retired World War II veteran, said he does not believe the charges are harsh enough.

"He could have killed me. He should be charged with attempted murder," Sims said.

He also said it is a sad state of society that there were so many people standing by watching and not doing anything.

He does have a message for Bradley, "I would say turn his life around. Go to school. Get a job and work for a living, not steal it."

Bradley is in the Wayne County Jail on \$75,000 bond.

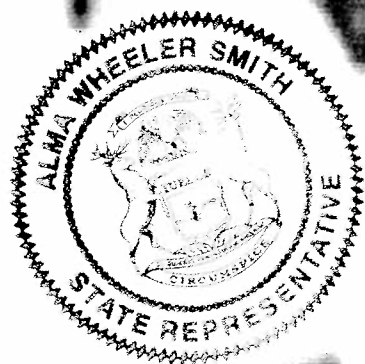
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Link to video:

<http://www.clickondetroit.com/video/13314386/index.html>



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## VIDEO: Woman dies in hospital waiting room

Lucy Yang reports on a woman who died in a hospital waiting room.

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## Collapses, waits 45 minutes for response

 Eyewitness News

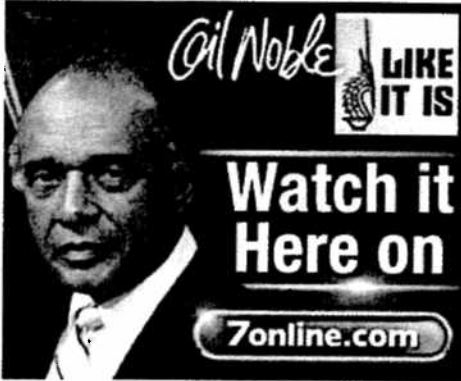
KINGS COUNTY (WABC) -- New York City hospital officials promised reforms at a Brooklyn psychiatric ward where surveillance footage captured a woman falling from her chair, writhing on the floor and dying as workers watched without helping for an hour.

Esmin Green, 49, had been waiting in the emergency room at the city-owned Kings County Hospital Center for nearly 24 hours when she toppled from her seat at 5:32 a.m. on June 19, falling face down on the floor.

She was dead by 6:35, when someone on the medical staff, flagged down by a person in the waiting room, finally approached, nudged Green with her foot, and gently prodded her shoulder, as if to wake her. The staffer then left and returned with someone wearing a white lab coat who examined her and summoned help.

Until the staffer's appearance, Green's collapse barely caused a ripple. Other patients waiting a few feet away didn't react. Security guards and a member of the hospital's staff appeared to notice her prone body at least three times, but made no visible attempt to see if she needed help.

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One guard didn't even leave his chair, rolling it around a corner to stare at the body, then rolling away a few moments later.

Green, a Jamaican-born woman who had been involuntarily committed the previous morning and had waited overnight for a bed, stopped moving about half an hour after she collapsed.

The New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation, which runs the hospital, said six people have been fired as a result of the incident, including security personnel and members of the medical staff.

The psychiatric unit at Kings County Hospital had already been a subject of complaints by advocates for the mentally ill.

A state agency, the New York State Mental Hygiene Legal Service, and the New York Civil Liberties Union filed a lawsuit a year ago, calling the psychiatric center "a chamber of filth, decay, indifference and danger."

Both sides in the dispute went before a federal judge Tuesday to jointly file papers in which the hospital system agreed to a series of reforms. Under the agreement, patients in the waiting room will now be checked every 15 minutes.

Over the next four months, the hospital will attempt to shorten the median waiting time to around 10 hours. A judge is scheduled to sign off on the agreement today.

The tape of the incident has also been turned over to prosecutors.

Green's medical records raised the possibility that someone might have tried to cover up the circumstances of the death.

One notation said that at 6 a.m., she was "awake, up and about" and had just used the restroom. Another said that at 6:20 a.m., she was sitting quietly in the waiting room, and had a normal blood pressure. During both of those times, Green was either in her death throes or already dead.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg said he was disgusted by the tape, and that the actions of the hospital staff were unacceptable.

"I think what they said is, 'Oh well, people sleep on the floor all the time, and I didn't pay any attention,'" he said. "They shouldn't be sleeping on the floor ... and you should pay attention."

HHC's president, Alan Aviles, said in a statement that he was shocked and distressed by the situation and promised a thorough investigation.

Details of the death were disclosed by the hospital on June 20, but the case largely remained unnoticed until the video became public.

According to the lawsuit, patients at the hospital, "are subjected to overcrowded and squalid conditions often accompanied by physical abuse and unnecessary and punitive injections of mind-altering drugs."

"From the moment a person steps through the doors," it added, "she is stripped of her freedom and dignity and literally forced to fight for the essentials of life."

The suit was especially critical of the hospital's emergency ward, saying it is so poorly staffed that patients are often marooned there for days while they wait to be evaluated.

Sometimes the unit runs out of chairs, according to the lawsuit, forcing people to wait on foam mats or on the waiting room floor. The suit also claims that bathrooms are filthy and filled with flies, and that patients who complain too loudly are sometimes handcuffed, beaten or injected with psychotropic drugs.

Robert Cohen, a Manhattan attorney who is representing the legal service for free, said those changes should only be a start for the beleaguered hospital.

"This woman did not die because there are a few bad apples on the staff," he said. "There is a culture of indifference to patients."

The office of the city's medical examiner said it was still trying to determine why Green died. She had been brought to the hospital suffering from agitation and psychosis, city officials said.

The city has agreed to fly her body home to her family in Jamaica for burial.

Recent and future reforms to the Kings County Psychiatric Emergency Program include:

- Additional staffing
- Expanded crisis prevention training for staff, including managing of agitated patients
- Expanded space to address overcrowding
- Shorten patient wait time for treatment, release or placement to inpatient bed
- The appointment of a new interim administrator who will report directly to Mr. Aviles
- Patients in the psychiatric emergency unit will be checked every 15 minutes
- A clinical staff person will be assigned this responsibility for each shift
- Timely documentation of patient care and assessment"

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31 comments

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3 [angelorosad7](#) 6/30/08 11:26 PM EDT

You were right to air the video. Where is the compassion? Particularly the workers saw this woman and did and didn't give a dam. Hopefully this is an isolated case. The public should know what goes on at these city hospitals that handle situations. Personally, I would never go to Kings Co. or Brookdale. You can be there for days before being seen. God Bless this woman. <br/>From NYCHA [Mark As Violation](#)

4 [pierceda](#) 7/1/08 8:36 AM EDT

I agree aangelorosad7, they do have the right to show this video. It will wake some of these hospitals up about mistreating patients. Thats what the news is for, its to show whats going on in world. lizpeppermint and dgeske: If you were really sick and someone took you to a hospital with a bad reputation and you found out later that the media knew about it and didn't notify the public, wouldn't you be angry at them? [Mark As Violation](#)

5 [pierceda](#) 7/1/08 8:39 AM EDT

And why play the video if you didn't want to see it. You can't make an excuse that you didn't know. Its obvious by seeing the lady laying on the floor. [Mark As Violation](#)

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6 [lulycarballo](#) 7/1/08 10:06 AM EDT

The lack of compassion also extends to the people that were sitting there next to her. The video might be too grafic however it exposes the lack of quality in our healthcare system. The intended changes come too late. The public has the right to now what goes on in our city hospitals. My most sincere condolences to the family. [Mark As Violation](#)

7 [ertgf](#) 7/1/08 10:13 AM EDT

I am very saddened by this horrific incident. I'm glad to have seen the video. These are some of the harsh realities in life. It's horrible that attorneys are already suing to make a profit for themselves. It's a shame it happened but HHC shouldn't have to lose money for a few pathetic heartless employees. The employees were fired and they have been improving the overall healthcare system. Thank you [Mark As Violation](#)

8 [emelizart](#) 7/1/08 11:48 AM EDT

Are you kidding me? One of the reason's that the civil rights movement proceeded was because of the horrific scenes shown on television that shocked people into action. Videos like this are what drive me to continue my pursuit in a career in healthcare. The video is something real that happened; my hope is that it would shock others into action too. If anything they can preserve this woman's dignity defending her right to prompt treatment and to have her case fought even in death. [Mark As Violation](#)

9 [evelina421](#) 7/1/08 12:34 PM EDT

although it may seem inappropriate to air this video of a woman collapsing on the floor in a hospital to some, It is very important that the public be made aware of what truly goes on. No one came to her rescue her death could have been prevented depending on the situation of her case.To wait that long is just

# Homeless Man Beaten to Death While Motorists Watch

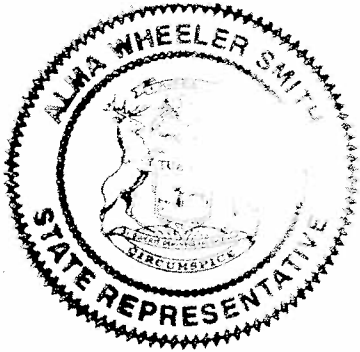
June 27, 2008 by Maggie OLeary

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Reports are coming out of Cleveland, Ohio of another disgusting crime. Apparently a group of at least three young thugs viciously attacked a homeless man for no good reason on Wednesday. The man, 42-year-old Anthony Waters, was severely beaten on a street on Cleveland's east side, and was robbed of his music player and

headphones. Surveillance cameras at a nearby towing company caught passing motorists slowing down to watch the brutality from their vehicles. No one bothered to call for help, however. It's a sad, sad day in this country when people view the killing of a person as drive-time entertainment on their way to work. Mr. Waters was able to crawl to the towing company where employees came to his aid, but it was too late. Mr. Waters passed away at Metro Hospital on Wednesday evening.



Mr. Waters' story is absolutely heartbreaking, and brings to mind another similar incident that I became personally involved in back in 2006. A man by the name of Barney Ross "Shane" Goodman was beaten to death by another couple of dirtbags in Texas. Mr. Goodman was a former

United States Marine, and a disabled VietNam veteran. Due to complications of diabetes, Mr. Goodman was a double amputee and used a wheelchair or prosthetic legs to get around. Mr. Goodman largely depended on the kindnesses of others to help him get through his day to day life. One evening in September 2006, Mr. Goodman received his VA disability check in the mail, and asked his landlady's son and a friend to give him a ride into town so he could cash his check and pay his rent and get a few other necessities. The two young men beat Mr. Goodman severely and robbed him, and then tossed him off a bridge without his wheelchair or prosthetic devices. Mr. Goodman spent eight excruciating hours crawling his way out of the creek and up to a road where he flagged someone down to help him. He died later at a local hospital, after he was able to identify his attackers. I had the unfortunate honor of riding in the Patriot Guard mission to honor Mr. Goodman's life and service to this great nation.

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## TV Networks Watch Death Closely: Terri Schiavo, Pope John Paul II, Six Feet Under

TV news focuses on a handful of events, sometimes-trivial stories, that will deliver Nielsen numbers. TV News is never happier then when it goes on Death Watch-Funeral Watch, as it did recently with Terri Schiavo, then again with Pope John Paul II.

By Christopher Stone | Published 4/27/2005 | [Read more »](#)

